

January 8, 2008

## **MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION ON AGING**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order in the Bartlett Senior Citizen Center on January 8, 2008 by Chairman Craft at 9:35 a.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Callen, Cardella, Clutter, Griffith (arrived 9:45 a.m.) Virobik and Chairman Craft

Absent: Breaker

Staff: Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand

### **3. FLAG SALUTE AND INSPIRATIONAL**

Commissioner Virobik led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Griffith provided the following inspirations:

*"Three keys to more abundant living: caring about others, daring for others, sharing with others".*

*William A. Ward*

### **4. ACCEPT AND FILE AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Virobik, Commissioner Cardella seconded, to accept and file the Affidavit of Agenda Posting for its meeting of January 8, 2008. The motion carried unanimously.

### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Cardella moved, Commissioner Virobik seconded, to approve the minutes of the Commission on Aging meeting of December 11, 2007. The motion carried unanimously.

### **6. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Ges Davis, RSVP Program Manager  
Kevin Joe, Community Development Department  
Susan Rhilinger, Airport Commission  
Phillip Ross, Senior Librarian  
Ted Seman, Community Development Department

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## **7. PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT – COMMUNITY RESOURCES ELEMENT TO THE GENERAL PLAN**

Ted Seman and Kevin Joe of Community Development presented an overview of the Community Resources Element to the General Plan. Members of the Commission commended staff on the thoroughness of the report and discussed issues relative to parking, pedestrian right of ways, signalization of traffic signals on major roadways and increased illumination of street signs.

## **8. SENIOR CITIZENS CONCERNS**

### **A. City Council**

Commissioner Griffith reported on recent actions by the City Council pertaining to the selling of jet fuel and an appeal of a decision to allow a six foot fence. She also shared that Mayor Dee Hardison received the Jared Sidney Torrance Award at the December 18<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting and that Torrance's Rose Bowl Parade float won a volunteers award.

### **B. Housing**

None.

### **C. Health**

Commissioner Griffith spoke on her efforts to have AARP support upcoming legislation on reporting of infections by hospitals.

Chairman Craft talked of a recent article he had read which indicated that the United States is behind other countries in the curing of preventable diseases.

### **D. Transportation**

Commission Griffith commented that she has heard that discussions are being held on the possibility of charging motorists traveling to downtown LA and for using the car pool lane.

### **E. Cable**

Commissioner Callen reported that an encore presentation of the Flu Clinic is currently being broadcast and that coverage of the Salvation Army's Sharing is Caring luncheon is currently being edited. Commissioner Callen also mentioned a 97th birthday celebration he attended for a Kathy Stewart - sharing that she is a remarkable person and that he is going to do a profile on her.

### **F. Focal Point Program**

Commissioner Virobik indicated that four elder abuse calls regarding financial abuse were received this month.

Commissioner Virobik reported the following statistics for the month of December:

Total number of calls received -- 110

- Total number of documented calls -- 33  
(Note: 59 follow up phone calls were made to clients)
- Miscellaneous calls -- 77
- Total number of walk-ins -- 10

Of the 33 documented calls,

- 52% were for Housing
- 15.1 % were for Legal
- 27.3% were for In Home Services

A discussion was held on the future reporting of Focal Point statistics due to Commissioner Virobik's completion of her term with the Commission. Commissioner Cardella offered to obtain the information from Focal Point and report it to the Commission accordingly.

#### **G. Elder Abuse/Fraud**

A discussion was held on how easy it is for seniors to be financially abused by caregivers. At the request of Commission Callen, Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand will invite Police Officer Crespino to the March or April meeting to update the Commission on recent scams and how one can be protected.

### **9. ORALS**

Senior Recreation Supervisor Wand thanked Commission Virobik for her tremendous contribution to the Commission. She announced that a luncheon will be held in her honor and that she will contact the Commissioners. She announced that due to Lincoln's Birthday, the next Commission meeting will be pushed back a week and held on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Virobik shared that it has been an honor and privilege to serve the Commission on Aging. She stated that transportation and affordable rental housing have been her key issues and that she hopes the Commission and City Council will continue their work on addressing these important matters.

Airport Commissioner Susan Rhilinger briefly reported on the general aviation issues the Commission handles. Commissioner Craft voiced concern with early morning take offs and landings of jets at Torrance Airport.

Senior Librarian Phillip Ross provided updates on "Words on Wheels", the "Brains Games for Older Adults" program and the "Transforming Life After 50" grant process.

Ges Davis, RSVP Program Manager, shared information on RSVP and their continued efforts to keep seniors informed and safe. She stated that Focal Point is a great resource for RSVP and commended Commissioner Virobik on her valuable contributions to Focal Point and the Commission.

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Commissioner Cardella distributed copies of the Advance Health Care Directive. She stated that the process has been changed and affects only those individuals who do not have a directive currently in place.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. to Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. at the Bartlett Center, Hosler Conference Room to **Tuesday, February 19, 2008.**

Approved as Amended February 19, 2008 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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